



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,408	06/23/2003	Lawrence J. Mika	60655.1000	4181
66170	7590	03/14/2008 AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVEL RELATED SERVICES CO., INC. c/o SNELL & WILMER, L.L.P. ONE ARIZONA CENTER 400 E. VAN BUREN STREET PHOENIX, AZ 85004-2202		
			EXAMINER OSBORNE, LUKE R	
			ART UNIT 2123	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 03/14/2008	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

HSOBELMAN@SWLAW.COM
DMIER@SWLAW.COM
JESLICK@SWLAW.COM

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/603,408	MIKA, LAWRENCE J.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	LUKE OSBORNE	2123	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 November 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Status

1. Claims 1-11 are now pending in the instant application.

Claims 1-11 stand rejected.

Applicants' arguments submitted 11/27/07 have been fully considered, Examiners response is as follows.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments are directed toward the reference Coleman. The rejection as maintained here uses Crozier, therefore Applicant's arguments are not drawn to the current rejection and are considered moot. The additional limitations as added by applicant have been additionally rejected by Crozier as found below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,392,390 to Crozier hereinafter "Crozier".

Regarding claim 1, Crozier discloses a computer-implemented method for facilitating the translation of files comprising:

establishing, via a host computer, definitions comprising at least one of sorting criteria, filter criteria, data range, file format, accounting codes, and formatting criteria

[Crozier: The mapping step of the program builds a set of rules that the translate step will use to translate data from one record structure to another. The mapping step must be run once for each pair of source-destination file formats where one of the files is a keyed database, such as PHONE 103 or DATA 109. The output of a mapping step is a mapping database that can be used for any number of translate steps in the future. (Column 5, lines 55-62)];

– establishing, via a host computer, an expression, wherein said expression is evaluated when said interface during said translation [Crozier: Some applications such as the SCHEDULE 105 application do not have unique keys and have special characteristics (expression, such as) A repeating appointment typically is daily, weekly, monthly, etc. until a specified date, and with a description, for instance, "Branch Office Meeting" every Monday at 10:30 for the next two years. (Column 13, lines 28-63)];

– creating, via said host computer, an interface file including said definitions and said expression; [Crozier: Before communicating with the desktop application, the user may specify the mapping of handheld and desktop application data for the PHONE 103 and DATA 109 applications by utilizing the mapping facilities of DTMAP 129. A default mapping is provided for the other applications (Column 5, lines 44-49)];

– reading, via said host computer, unusable data from a first source [Crozier: Step 2 Transfer of data from handheld to desktop (Column 4, lines 58-63)];

- reading, via said host computer, said definitions and said expression contained in said interface file [Crozier: The mapping is stored in a MAPPING database, which is referenced during the translation operation (Column 8, Lines 1-16)];
- translating [Crozier: Step 3, Translation of data to desktop format], via said host computer, using only a single translation of said unusable data from said first source to create a first data copy, wherein said first data copy is in a format usable by a second source according to said definitions contained in said interface file and, wherein said unusable data from said first source is usable by said second source after said translating step

[Croizer: The mapping step establishes correspondences between fields of pairs of files. On import, the transfer step brings the handheld data into the desktop computer. The translation step uses the rules provided by the mapping step to convert the handheld data in one format to desktop data in another format (Column 4, lines 64- Column 5, line 1)]; and,

- executing, via a host computer, said expression, wherein said expression performs a calculation and retrieves a second data copy from a third source

[Croizer: The preferred embodiment of the SCHEDULE RECONCILIATION facility creates a SCHEDULE MAP TABLE 601 by requesting all appointments for today and the future from the desktop schedule application. For example, the preferred embodiment utilizes Windows 3.0's Dynamic Data Exchange facility to request all schedule items from the desktop personal information manager Polaris PackRat. This results in a complete evaluation of all existing appointments in the desktop schedule. The resultant data are then used to build the SCHEDULE MAP TABLE 601 in the memory of the desktop computer.];

- formatting, via a host computer, said first data copy and said second data copy in accordance with said definitions [Croizer: TABLE 2 describes the translation process for a keyed database The SCHEDULE MAP TABLE 601, an example of which is shown in FIG. 6, is used for comparison during the

translation of schedule data from the handheld computer. (Columns 13-14, lines 28-43)]; and,

– saving, onto host computer, said interface file [Crozier: The mapping is stored in a MAPPING database, which is referenced during the translation operation (Column 8, Lines 1-16), The output of a mapping step is a mapping database that can be used for any number of translate steps in the future. (Column 5, lines 55-62)].

Regarding claim 2, Crozier discloses the method of claim 1 wherein said establishing step comprises:

– receiving information regarding a type of said interface file to be created [Croizer: Column 5, lines 55-62];
– receiving file type information regarding a desired file format [Croizer: Column 5, line 63 - Column 6, line 2]; and
– receiving formatting information regarding a format of said data being translated [Croizer: Column 5, line 63 - Column 6, line 2].

Regarding claim 3, Crozier discloses the method of claim 2 wherein said receiving formatting information step comprises entering said formatting information for each field of said unusable data being translated [Crozier: Column 5, lines 44-49].

Regarding claim 4, Crozier discloses the method of claim 3, wherein said formatting data comprises:

- a field name;
- a description;
- a length of the field;
- an indicator of fixed-width/variable width status;
- a mask to force said unusable data into a particular style;
- justification information;
- position information; and
- element information [Crozier: Column 6, lines 31-59].

Regarding claim 5, Crozier discloses the method of claim 4 wherein said element information comprises:

- information regarding a type of said unusable data in said field, wherein said information comprises at least one of:
 - a calculated expression;
 - a static table entry;
 - alphanumeric information; and
 - a query [Crozier: The preferred embodiment provides hard-coded record descriptors for the PHONE 103, SCHEDULE 105, TODO 107, DATA 109, and MEMO 111 applications provided by each of the supported handheld computers.].

Regarding claim 6, Crozier discloses the method of claim 2 further comprising:

- selecting a template file as a starting point for creating the interface file

[Crozier: Before communicating with the desktop application, the user may specify the mapping of handheld and desktop application data for the PHONE 103 and DATA 109 applications by utilizing the mapping facilities of DTMAP 129.

A default mapping is provided for the other applications. (Column 5, lines 44-49)];

- entering sorting information regarding a sorting preference; and
- entering filtering information regarding a filtering preference

[Once the mapping facility has acquired an understanding of the fields of each of the two record structures, the next step is to establish the actual field mappings--for instance, to establish a correspondence between a PHONE 103 field of file format 1 and a FAX NUMBER 307 field of file format 2, and to determine the data conversion rule for mapping a datum of field PHONE to a datum of field FAX NUMBER 307, for instance "convert 3 2-byte integers to 10 ASCII characters." This is accomplished by a user, who is presented with a list of all the fields of each of the two record structures, and then asked to select corresponding names. (Column 6, line 50 – Column 7 line 10)].

Regarding claim 7, Crozier discloses the method of claim 1, wherein said step of establishing definitions comprises establishing definitions based upon a response to a question presented to a user via a user interface [Crozier: Figure 5, the user may specify the mapping of handheld and desktop application data for the PHONE 103 and DATA 109 applications by utilizing the mapping facilities of DTMAP 129. (Column 5, lines 44-49), The invention provides both a framework and a convenient user interface for tying together previous data translation techniques into a more broadly-applicable and easy-to-use system (Column 3, line 67 – Column 4, line 2), Column 7, lines 7-10].

Regarding claim 8, Crozier discloses the method of claim 1 wherein said translating step further comprises:

creating said second source of a predetermined type, writing said unusable data to said second source in said format usable by said second source and, saving said second source [Crozier: As the translation takes place, the fields are mapped according to the user specification into the desktop application database. (Column 7, lines 53-60)].

Regarding claim 9, Crozier discloses the method of claim 1 wherein said step of establishing definitions further comprises establishing definitions having a property relating to a data field [Crozier: FIG. 4 shows an example of field mapping between an application's data 109 (FIELD1 401, FIELD2 403, FIELD3 405, FIELD4 407, FIELD5 409) of a HANDHELD COMPUTER 101, and a database manager application's data (CUSTOMER NAME 413, CUSTOMER NUMBER 415, ORDER DATE 417, QUANTITY 419, ITEM 421, and PRICE 423) of a DESKTOP COMPUTER 115. (Column 7, lines 61-67)].

Regarding claim 10, Crozier discloses the method of claim 9 wherein said property includes at least one of

- field name, description, status, length flag, length, minimum length, maximum length, format mask, justification, pad character, quote, delimiter flag, start position, end position, counter increment flag, element, query field, static table entry, counter, fixed test, expression, character function and common

expression [Crozier: FIG. 4 shows an example of field mapping between an application's data 109 (FIELD1 401, FIELD2 403, FIELD3 405, FIELD4 407, FIELD5 409) of a HANDHELD COMPUTER 101, and a database manager application's data (CUSTOMER NAME 413, CUSTOMER NUMBER 415, ORDER DATE 417, QUANTITY 419, ITEM 421, and PRICE 423) of a DESKTOP COMPUTER 115. (Column 7, lines 61-67)].

Regarding claim 11, Crozier discloses the method of claim 1 wherein said step of creating, via said host computer, an interface file includes creating only one interface file [Crozier: Column 8, lines 14-22].

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Luke Osborne whose telephone number is (571) 272-4027. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul L. Rodriguez can be reached on (571) 272-3753. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LRO

/Paul L Rodriguez/
Supervisory Patent Examiner,
Art Unit 2123

Application/Control Number: 10/603,408
Art Unit: 2123

Page 11